

OPINION 1849

***Livoneca* Leach, 1818 (Crustacea, Isopoda): the original spelling confirmed as correct, and the spelling *Lironeca* rejected**

Keywords. Nomenclature; taxonomy; Isopoda; *Lironeca*; *Livoneca*.

Ruling

- (1) The name *Livoneca* Leach, 1818 (gender: feminine), type species by subsequent designation by Fowler (1912) *Livoneca redmanii* Leach, 1818, is hereby placed on the Official List of Generic Names in Zoology.
- (2) The name *redmanii* Leach, 1818, as published in the binomen *Livoneca redmanii* (specific name of the type species of *Livoneca* Leach, 1818), is hereby placed on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology.
- (3) The name LIVONECINAE Schioedte & Meinert, 1884 (type genus *Livoneca* Leach, 1818) is hereby placed on the Official List of Family-Group Names in Zoology.
- (4) The name *Lironeca* Leach in White, 1847 is hereby placed on the Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Generic Names in Zoology (an incorrect spelling of *Livoneca* Leach, 1818).

History of Case 2915

An application for the conservation of *Lironeca* Leach, 1818 as the correct original spelling of the generic name first published as *Livoneca* was received from Prof Ernest H. Williams, Jr. (*Caribbean Aquatic Animal Health Project, University of Puerto Rico, Lajas, Puerto Rico*) and Dr Thomas E. Bowman (*National Museum of Natural History, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C., U.S.A.*) on 9 August 1993. After correspondence the case was published in BZN 51: 224–226 (September 1994). Notice of the case was sent to appropriate journals.

Opposing comments from Prof L.B. Holthuis (*Nationaal Natuurhistorisch Museum, Leiden, The Netherlands*), from Dr Angelika Brandt (*Institut für Polarökologie, Christian-Albrechts-Universität zu Kiel, Kiel, Germany*), and from Dr Niel L. Bruce (*Zoologisk Museum, Copenhagen, Denmark*) were published in BZN 52: 67–69 (March 1995). Replies by Dr Thomas E. Bowman (co-author of the application) and by Prof Ernest H. Williams, Jr. (co-author) & Dr Lucy Bunkley Williams (*University of Puerto Rico, Lajas, Puerto Rico*) were published in BZN 52: 263–264 (September 1995).

Comments in support from Dr Giambattista Bello (*Istituto Arion, Mola di Bari, Italy*) and from Prof Robert Y. George (*The University of North Carolina at Wilmington, Wilmington, North Carolina, U.S.A.*) were published in BZN 52: 178–179 (June 1995). (Dr Bello's comment was inadvertently repeated in BZN 52: 264, September 1995, under the name 'Gianni Bello').

Comments from two members of the Nomenclature Committee of The Crustacea Society were received during the voting period. Dr A.B. Williams (*NOAA/NMFS Systematics Laboratory, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C., U.S.A.*) noted: 'I agree with the authors of the application (para. 3) that it is patently obvious from their constructions themselves that Leach (1818) formed five names as anagrams of Caroline and three names as anagrams of Carolina. Though Leach gave no internal

evidence in his text that the generic names were based on such anagrams, there is evidence from the hand of the author himself on the reprint of his 1818 paper that he sent to Latreille that they are anagrams, for he corrected the names *Livonèca* and *Livoneca* to *Lironèca* and *Lironeca* every time they occurred (eight times), and there were also other corrected printer's errors, as pointed out by Williams & Bowman (para. 4). Strict adherence to literal interpretation of Article 32c(ii) would not warrant correction of the published name *Livoneca* to *Lironeca*, but documented arguments by the authors make a strong case for effecting this change'. Dr Gary C.B. Poore (*Museum of Victoria, Abbotsford, Victoria, Australia*) noted: 'This is a case where a well used name, *Livoneca*, has, through the actions of a few influential taxonomists, become slowly displaced during this century by a slightly different spelling, *Lironeca*. This trend has appeal only in that its proponents are attempting to relieve poor William Leach of the embarrassment of an apparent typographical error. In more recent times, Bruce's (1990) review of this genus and its relatives has become the definitive work and is likely to be followed. He used Leach's published spelling *Livoneca* and this is the one I advocate'.

In his comment (BZN 52: 68) Prof Holthuis pointed out that Fowler (1912), and not Gurjanova (1936), was the first to designate *Livoneca redmanii* Leach, 1818 as the type species of *Livoneca* (cf. para. 1 of the application).

Decision of the Commission

On 1 March 1996 the members of the Commission were invited to vote on the proposals published in BZN 51: 225. At the close of the voting period on 1 June 1996 the votes were as follows:

Affirmative votes — 11: Bock, Bouchet, Cocks, Corliss, Dupuis, Heppell, Kabata, Martins de Souza, Schuster, Starobogatov, Trjapitzin

Negative votes — 12: Bayer, Hahn, Holthuis, Kraus, Lehtinen, Minelli, Macpherson, Mahnert, Nielsen, Nye, Savage and Štys.

No vote was received from Halvorsen.

Cogger and Ride were on leave of absence.

Voting for, Kabata commented: 'It seems that the final judgement as to whether the spelling *Livoneca* can be seen as a lapsus is bound to be somewhat subjective. Considering the absence of 'v' from all other anagrams of the unfortunate, if wicked, Caroline(a), it is difficult to see Leach inserting it into *Lironeca*. I am in favour of approving the application'. Martins de Souza commented: 'The corrections by Leach on the reprint sent to Latreille (para. 4 of the application) clearly indicate that he originally used *Lironeca*'. Voting against, Lehtinen commented: 'The facts presented show that *Livoneca* was not a printer's error. Therefore a change from the original spelling cannot be supported'.

The required majority for the conservation of the spelling *Lironeca* was not reached. *Livoneca* Leach, 1818 is placed on the Official List as the correct original spelling.

Original references

The following are the original references to the names placed on Official Lists by the ruling given in the present Opinion:

Livoneca Leach, 1847, in White, A., *List of the specimens of Crustacea in the collections of the British Museum*, p. 109 (an incorrect spelling of *Livoneca* Leach, 1818).

Livoneca Leach, 1818, in Cuvier, F. (Ed.), *Dictionnaire des sciences naturelles*, vol. 12, p. 351.
LIVONECINAE Schioedte & Meinert, 1884, *Naturhistorisk Tidsskrift*, (3)**14**: 325.
redmanii, *Livoneca*, Leach, 1818, in Cuvier, F. (Ed.), *Dictionnaire des sciences naturelles*, vol. 12, p. 351.

The following is the reference for the designation of *Livoneca redmanii* Leach, 1818 as the type species of the nominal genus *Livoneca* Leach, 1818:

Fowler, H.W. 1912. *Annual Report of the New Jersey State Museum*, 1911: 278.